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RETURN TO

MANAGEMENT DIVISION

28 June 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Records Center in "Operation Alert"

1. Although the Records Center was not assigned a specific role in the evacuation exercise of 15, 16 & 17 June, the operation was placed on a 24-hour alert by the [redacted]

[redacted] It was agreed that any calls for material from the Center would be routed through the VM vault. Several calls were received during the first night from persons participating in the exercise and they were referred to VM. The Center did furnish three items that evening to the DD/I Message Center. A request for a TS, NIE could not be filled since this type of classified material is stored at Headquarters. It is interesting to note that when [redacted] visited the Center the following day he expressed curiosity over why his reports had to be retained in "M" building.

2. Undoubtedly, the most significant aspect of the exercise as it affected the Center was the number of top side visitors who toured the building. The attached daily log lists the names of these individuals. It is unfortunate that the building was not yet floored with tile, but the visitors in general appeared pleased with what they saw. The unfinished state of the building was explained in each case.

3. Col. Edwards and [redacted] of SO appeared sold on the Center facilities, and the latter stated that their files would be transferred but that it would take "some doing."

4. Colonel White visited the Center with two different parties and it was apparent he was doing a selling job for the operation, especially in respect to the DD/I and DD/P. The Colonel emphasized to the two Deputies that the Center was performing the functions of the National Archives for this Agency. Implied in this remark it seems to me was the importance of having official archives as well as VM deposited at this station.

Attachment

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